

# HELPFUL TIPS & **TRICKS FOR USA JOBS**

## TECHNICAL SUPPORT

- For support with the website please contact the customer support desk, by clicking the "Contact Us" link at the bottom of the USAJOBS webpage.
- ➤ This document was created as a helpful tool for new users and is not a product of USAJOBS. The USAJOBS website contains numerous How-To's and FAQ's that may also be of aid to potential applicants.

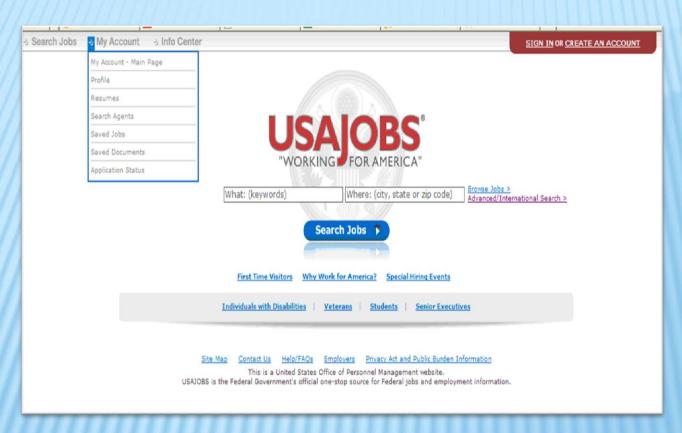
# **OVERVIEW**

- > Creating a User Account
- > Reviewing "My Profile"
- > Creating Your Resume
- > Creating Job Search Agents & "Saving Jobs"
- > Reviewing "Application Status"
- >Uploading Supporting Documents to "Saved Documents"
- >Basic Tips & Tricks

## CREATING A USER ACCOUNT

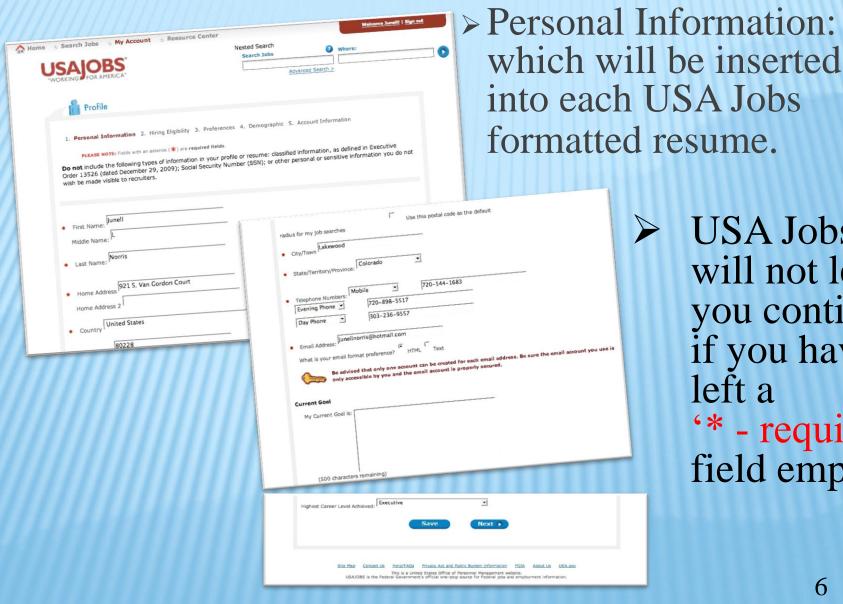
- Start with an easy to remember e-mail address as your log-in name.
- > Your password must have a combination of upper & lower characters, numbers & special characters.
  - Whatever your password, be sure to write it down OR make sure that you can remember it.

## CREATING A USER ACCOUNT



There are now drop down menus to assist in accessing the different sections of your user account.

## YOUR PROFILE – PERSONAL INFORMATION



**USA Jobs** will not let you continue if you have left a " - required field empty.

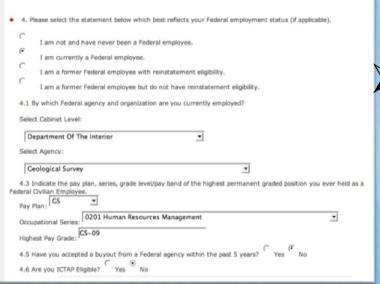
## YOUR PROFILE - ELIGIBILITY



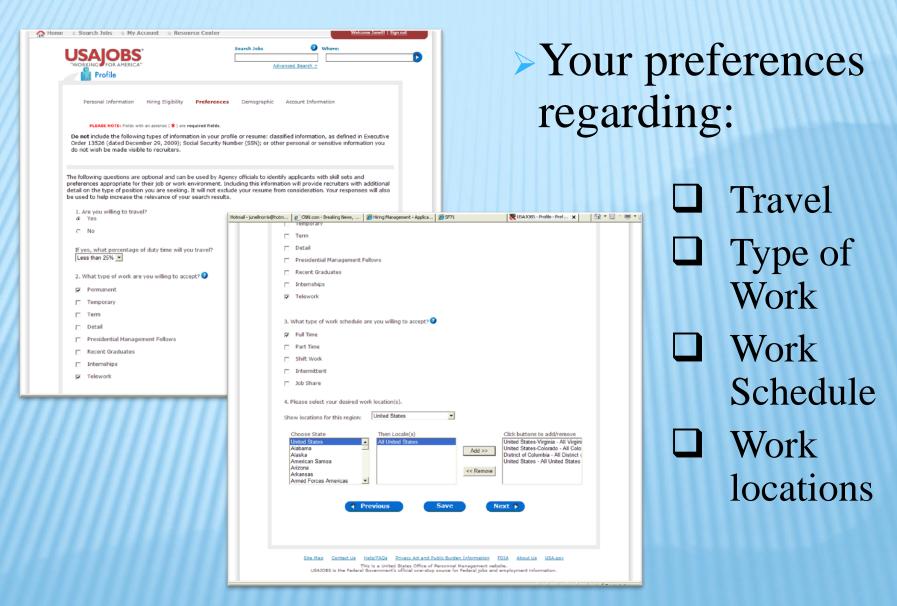
In Question #3, if you answer 'yes' to any of the possible answers.

A set of additional questions will appear.

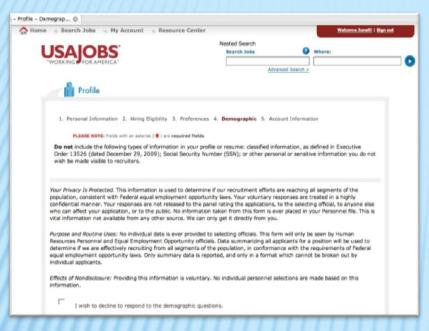
You will need to complete this information.



## YOUR PROFILE - PREFERENCES



## YOUR PROFILE - DEMOGRAPHICS





- Demographic Information:
  - You do NOT need to complete this information if you do NOT want to.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 V.S.C., 350) et. seo, I requires us to inform you that this information is being calcated for planning and assessing affirmative employment programs intitiatives. Response to this request is voluntary. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless is displays a currently valid DMS Control Number. The estimated burden of completing this form is three (3) invitudes, including the time for reviewing instructions. Direct comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this form to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Affirmative implications, Federal Sector Programs, 131 Miss. Well.

Washington, DC 20507 and to the Office of Management and Budget, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Washington, DC 20503.

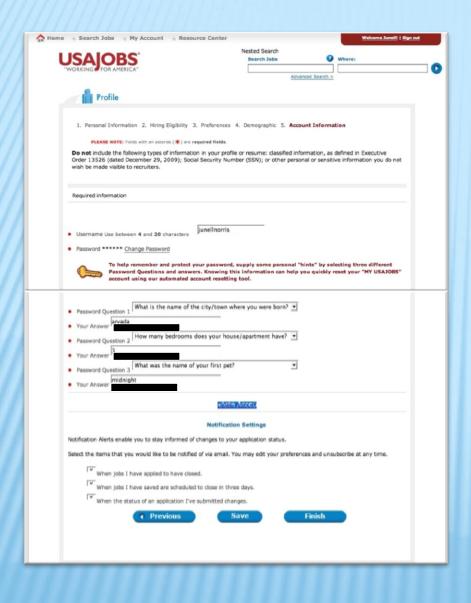
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USA/OBS is the Federal General Vision of Personnel Management website.

USA/OBS is the Federal General Vision and Profice Burden Information.

### YOUR PROFILE - ACCOUNT INFORMATION

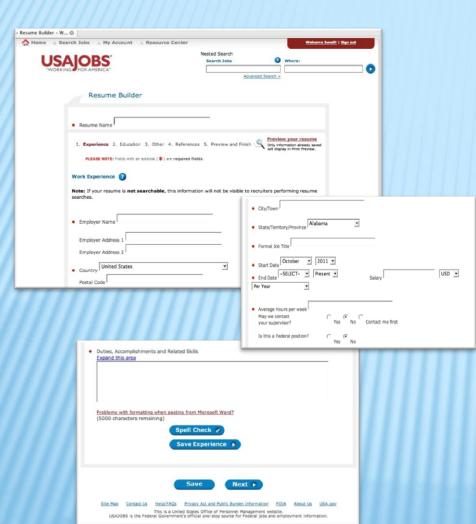


- User Name and security (including your password).
- Notification Settings.

## CREATING YOUR RESUME

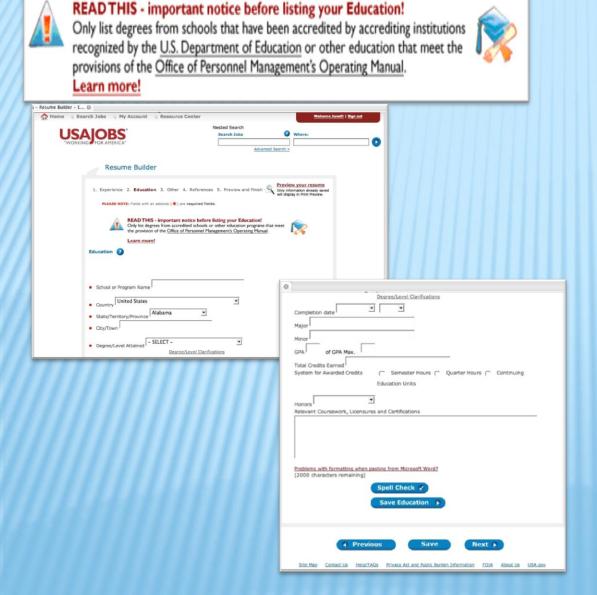
- > You can create up to 5 different resumes.
  - □You can have now have 5 'uploaded' resumes, within the grand total of 5 resumes.
- ➤ Utilize the Resume Builder within USA Jobs it's a simple step-by-step guide to creating a resume.

#### WORK EXPERIENCE ON YOUR RESUME



- > This is your employment history.
- > In the "Duties, Accomplishments, and Related Skills" field, include
  - □ Major Duties from your current position description.
  - □ Awards you have received.
  - □ Skills you have learned or developed.
- > There is a 5,000 character limit per field.
- > Use the Spell check.
- Once you 'save experience', you can continue entering additional work experience.

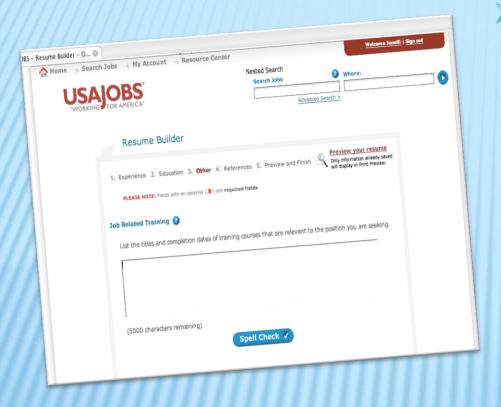
### **EDUCATION ON YOUR RESUME**



- List all of the educational institutions you have attended in the Education Section.
  - Provided that they are accredited institutions recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.
- Report any "Relevant Coursework, Licensures, and Certifications".
- There is a limitation of 2,000 characters in this field.

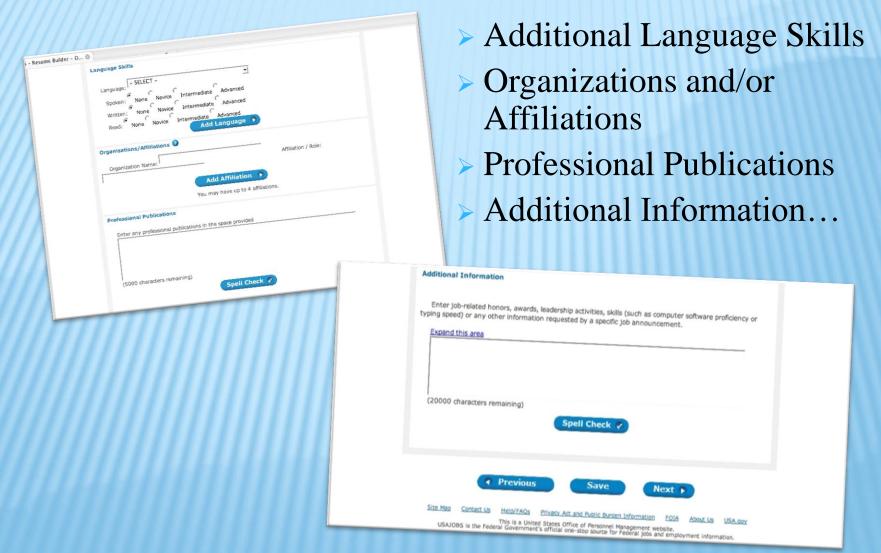
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## OTHER: JOB TRAINING ON YOUR RESUME

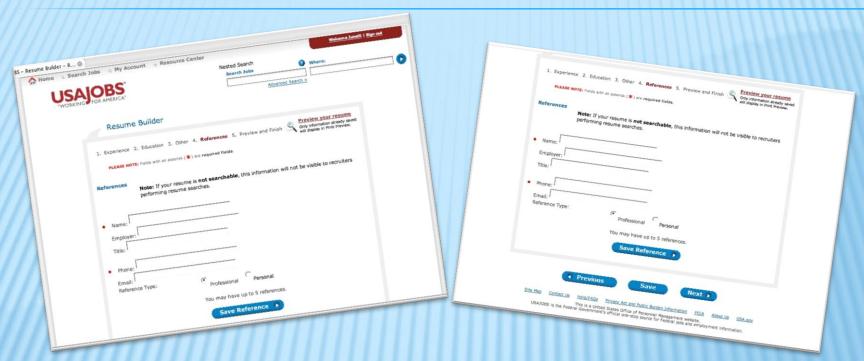


- Job Related training includes all types of training you have participated in.
  - DOI Learn courses
  - USDA Graduate School courses
  - SupervisoryChallenge
- Max of 5,000 character count.

#### OTHER: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON YOUR RESUME

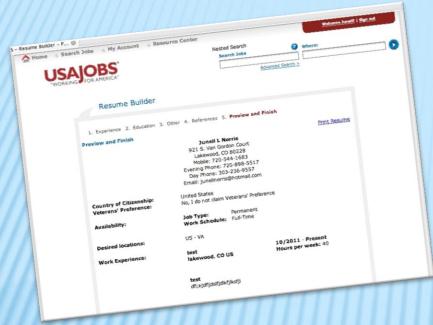


### REFERENCES ON YOUR RESUME



- Supply at least three (3) references two(2) professional and one (1) personal.
- You can supply more references if you want to...make sure that they are 'up-to-date'.

### PREVIEW & FINISH YOUR RESUME

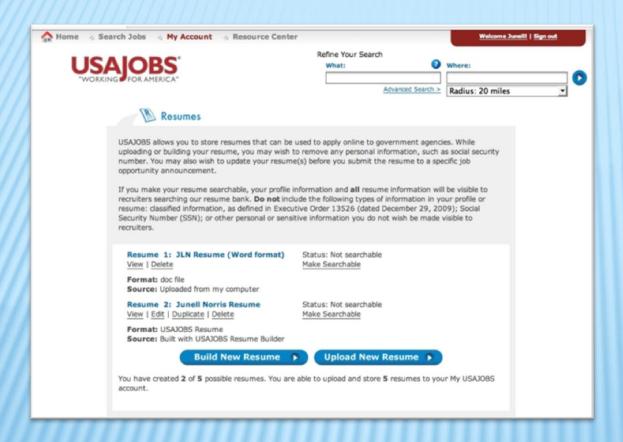


➤ If everything looks good – then just click 'finish'.

Here is your chance to preview your resume prior to completing the resume builder.



#### RESUME MENU



> Your Resume Menu within your **USA Jobs account** will tell you how many resumes you have active, as well as whether or not you have made them 'searchable'.

#### **UPLOADED RESUME TIPS**

> If you are going to use your 'own' upload resume. Make sure that your resume contains complete information, such as:

#### □ Month(s)/Year(s) of employment

❖ This is important when HR is determining whether or not you have the 1 year of specialized experience (if that is part of the qualification requirements).

#### □ Full/Part Time employment

\* This is important when HR is determining whether or not you have the 1 year of specialized experience (if that is part of the qualification requirements), as the part time hours can reduce the total number of months/years of employment.

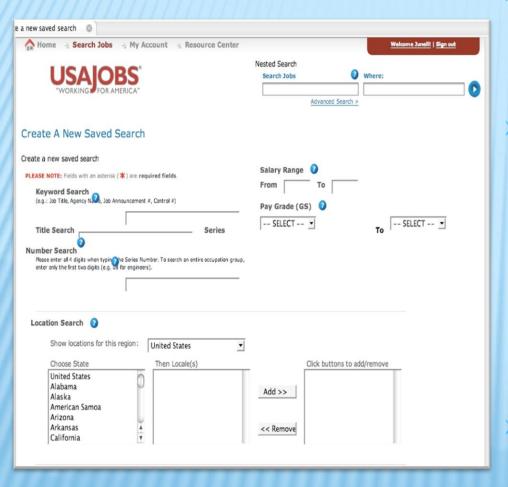
#### □ Complete description of work

❖ Be thorough in your description of job duties for each position on your resume. HR can NOT 'guess' or 'assume' or 'give you the benefit of doubt' that you have the knowledge/skill/ability to do the job that is being advertised. In reviewing the basic qualifications and the job description – if you do NOT have similar types of duties, which make use of similar knowledge/skill/ability then you will not be considered for the position.

#### □ Honesty

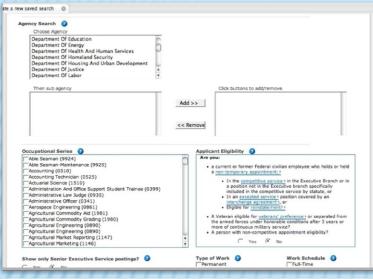
❖ Be honest on your resume – if an offer is made, and then later it is determined that you embellished your work history (month(s)/year(s), full/part-time, job description); you could see the offer of employment rescinded.

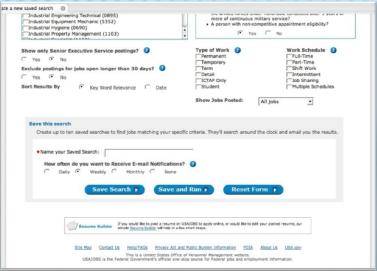
## CREATING JOB SEARCH AGENTS



- You can have up to 10 different Search Agents working for you at the same time.
- You decide how frequently you want 'e-mail' reminders from each search agent you create. This saves YOU time!
  - You don't have to log onto USA Jobs every day and search manually through all of the different postings.
- Search Agents will continue to search until YOU delete them.

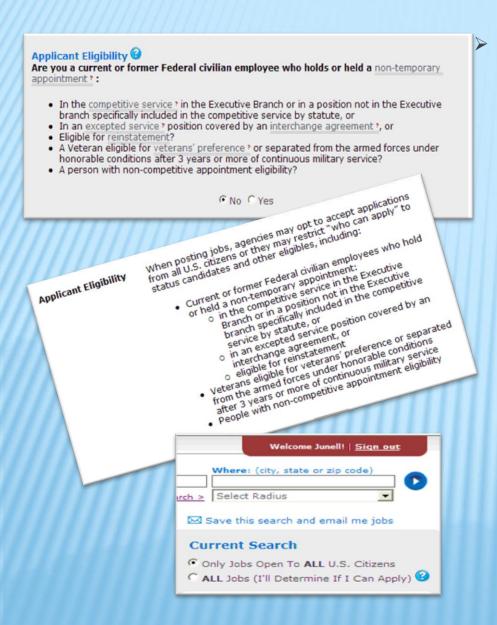
## Creating Job Search Agents





- > Search agents can be as generic or as specific as you want.
- You can select any combination of the following search criteria:
  - Job Locations
  - Job Categories
  - Occupational Series
  - Agencies
  - □ Salary Range OR Pay Grade
  - □ Senior Executive
  - □ Student Jobs
  - □ Nationwide Jobs
  - □ Jobs Open Longer than 30 days
  - □ Work Schedule
  - □ Tenure
  - □ Student Jobs Appointment Term
  - Jobs in Demand
- You can select how frequently you want to receive email alerts.

### CREATING JOB SEARCH AGENTS



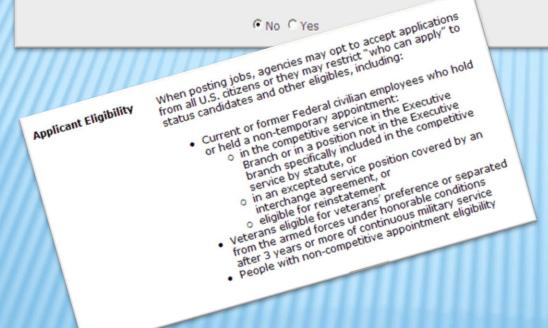
- Be aware of this Applicant Eligibility question/section. [Selecting the 'wrong' answer here will hamper the vacancy announcements you can view and you could miss vacancies you want to apply for.]
  - ☐ If you select 'No', the default answer, then the only vacancies you will be able to view/apply for will be the 'DEU' Delegated Examining Unit vacancies {which are open the any U.S. Citizen.}
  - ☐ If you can answer 'Yes' to any of the questions listed in this section, then you need to 'click' the 'Yes' button. Then you will be able to apply for all 'DEU' and 'MP' Merit Promotion vacancy announcements.

### APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY



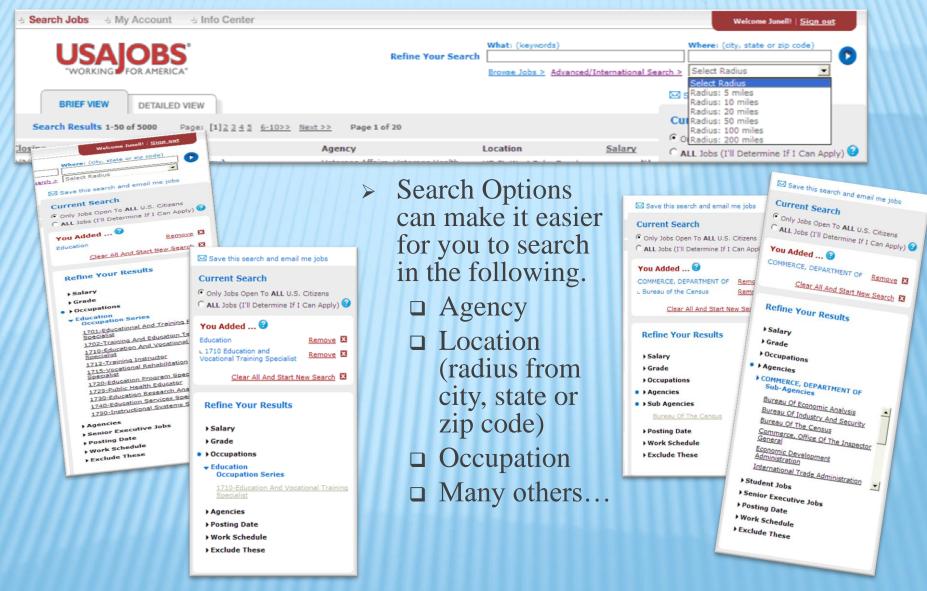
Are you a current or former Federal civilian employee who holds or held a non-temporary

- In the competitive service in the Executive Branch or in a position not in the Executive branch specifically included in the competitive service by statute, or
- In an excepted service position covered by an interchange agreement, or
- Eligible for reinstatement?
- · A Veteran eligible for veterans' preference or separated from the armed forces under honorable conditions after 3 years or more of continuous military service?
- A person with non-competitive appointment eligibility?

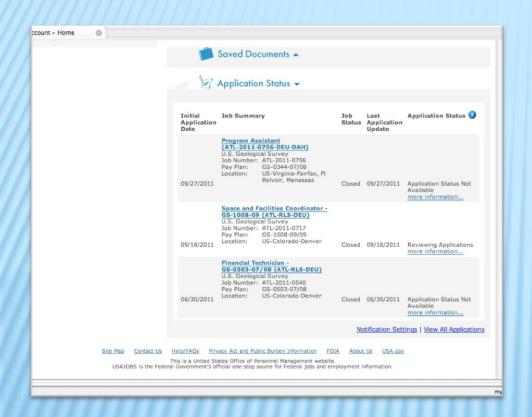


- This is also set up in your Profile section.
- If every time you log into USA Jobs prior to doing any search, the system automatically remembers your eligibility.
- So, no more letters informing you that you are 'NOT' eligible for the position.
  - (which is not the same as qualifications).

## SEARCH 'OPTIONS'

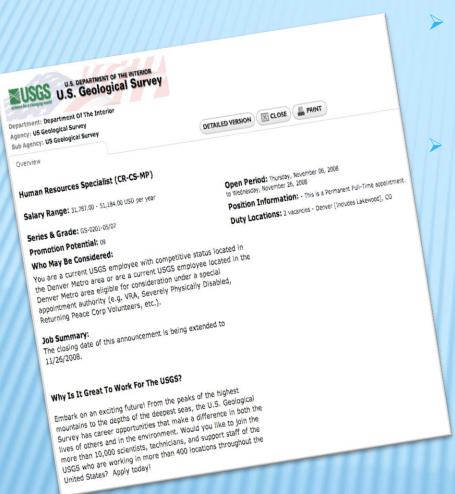


## REVIEWING "APPLICATION STATUS"



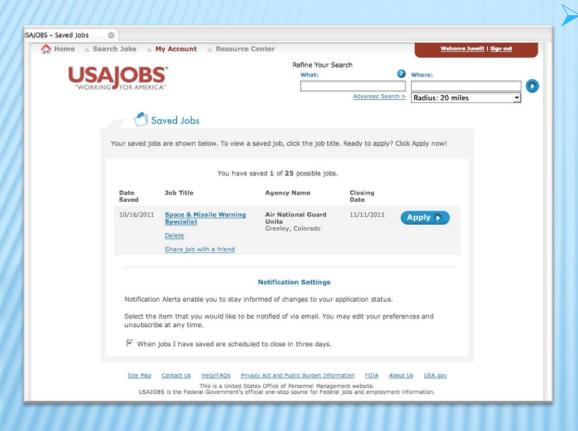
- > Watch "Application Status."
- > This feature allows you to track the different applications that you have submitted, it also provides 'notification settings'.

## REVIEWING "APPLICATION STATUS"



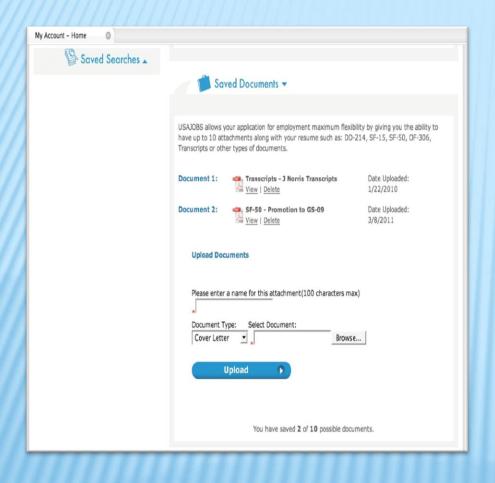
- Select the Job Title you want to review from within "Application Status."
- You will be able to review the vacancy announcement for that position.
  - ☐ If you will not have easy access to your USA Jobs account, print the vacancy announcement out prior to the closing date of the announcement in the event you are contacted for an interview you can ask 'insightful' questions.

## SAVED JOBS...



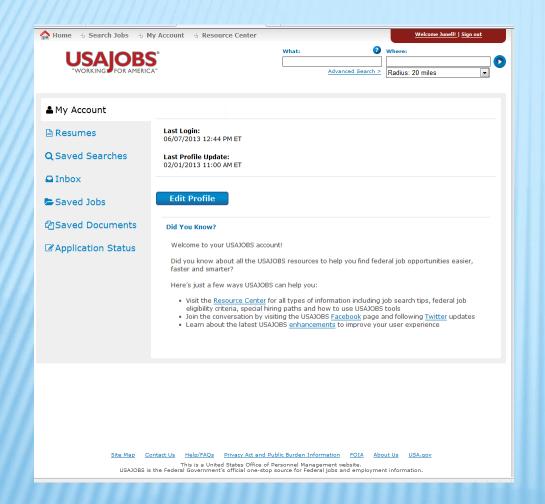
If you are logged into your USA
Jobs account, you can 'save' jobs to your account to apply for later...

### **UPLOADING TO "SAVED DOCUMENTS"**



- Upload any and all Supporting Documents in "My Portfolio".
  - Transcripts
  - □ DD-214
  - □ OF-306
  - □ SF-50
  - □ SF-15
- Not All Department or Agencies have the ability to receive any of the above supporting documents via their USA Jobs account.
- Read the vacancy announcement you may need to e-mail, fax, and/or mail these documents to the agency listing the vacancy announcement.
   \*Note: Some documents may not apply to you only those documents that apply to you and are required should be uploaded.
- > Limit to 10 documents.
- No document can be greater than 3Mb

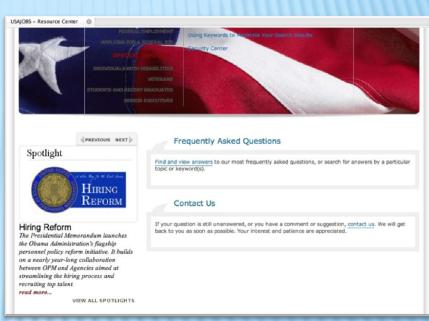
### YOUR 'NEW' ACCOUNT HOME PAGE



This is what your 'new' account home page will look like once you have gone through all of the different sections.

## THE "RESOURCE CENTER"





➤ The Info Center provides advice and special information about working for the Federal Government, including some basic FAQ's.

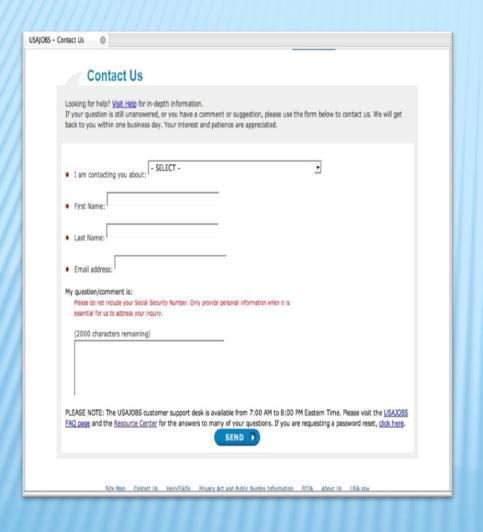
## **BASIC TIPS & TRICKS**

- Print out the Vacancy Announcement
  - □ Highlight important items, such as, submission of supporting documents, deadlines, closing date, contact information in the event you have questions.
- Remember to do the "Time Conversion" so that you are applying for the position prior to the closing date/time of the announcements {Make sure you are reading the announcement carefully.}
  - Most announcements close at 12:00 Midnight (EST-Eastern Standard Time). So, if you live in Colorado (Mountain Standard Time) you really only have until 10:00 pm MST to COMPLETE the entire application and submit any required supporting documents that must be submitted by the closing date/time of the vacancy announcement.

## **BASIC TIPS & TRICKS**

- Read the Announcement Carefully! Pay attention to how supporting documents can/should be submitted.
  - Be aware of any limitations placed upon the size of the applicant pool this will be in the announcement.
- Go to the Qualifications Section in the vacancy announcement.
  - At the bottom of the page you can 'preview' the vacancy announcement questions, prior to applying for the position.
- Select the appropriate answer to each question prior to applying
  - Special Note The 2010 Hiring Reform is streamlining the recruitment process, and as such the 'essay' style questions are being eliminated from the initial recruitment (job) announcement.

## **CONCLUSION**



- Utilizing these basic tips & tricks will help ensure that your resume is ready for any and all vacancy announcements that you plan to apply for.
- Don't hesitate to contact
   USA Jobs Service Support
   Desk (help desk) via the
   'Contact Us' link at the
   USA Jobs website..

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